



Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE and to the general public that THE CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE will hold the following meeting which will be open to the public:

2015
CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE

May 20, 2015

MINUTES

The CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE (CCC) held a meeting on Wednesday, May 20, 2015, 3:00 PM, at the Tucson Parks and Recreation Administration Office (900 S Randolph Way), Tucson, Arizona. The meeting took place in the Mesquite Conference Room.

1. Call to Order/ Roll call

The meeting was called to order at 3:36 pm. Juan Garcia, Gregg Garfin, Ben Champion, Ron Proctor, Nicole Sweeney, Joanie Sawyer, Barbara Warren, John Schwarz

2. Action: April 21, 2015 Minutes

Ben made a motion to approve the April minutes. Barbara seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

3. General Announcements

Committee members gave general updates. No action taken

4. Status: CCC Membership update

Staff reported that Charles Casey and Jaime de Zubeldia have resigned from the committee, and that Cesar Lopez was in the process of being removed for lack of attendance. No action taken

5. Discussion: Mayor and Council Meeting updates

Meetings with Ward 4 and Ward 5 still need to be scheduled.

6. Adaptation subcommittee report

Subcommittee met on April 20 and 29. The committee is using the Denver Climate Adaptation Plan as a template for the Tucson plan. Each subcommittee member has written a scope that will be reviewed by the subcommittee for incorporation into the plan that focuses on each of six areas. The Stuart/Cascadia work will be utilized in the new document. Expect to report progress at the CCC July meeting.

7. Carbon fee GHG mitigation strategies: information and discussion

Two possible goals within the Committees capacity:

- Recommendation to M/C on a local carbon tax
- Recommendation to M/C to support a resolution for national legislation on carbon tax

- John recalls making a proposal for an energy tax, committee had decided this was not possible for Tucson due to AZ Corporation Commission/City Government does not have power to impose.
- Tax would not be on the utility, providing options.
- Process would be Reviewing what other cities have done, identify areas that might work here, Mechanism for tax may already be in place.
- Carbon tax mechanisms as applied at the large institution scale? Universities using internal carbon tax mech. Ex: Prof. Travels by air, pays University a tax to shift behavior. Microsoft looking at doing this. Concept applies to many scales, Maybe City can encourage institutional carbon taxes.
- Carbon taxes are being instituted (some go back to 1990), Boulder CO. & British Columbia as examples.
- Vancouver established carbon fee in 2008, revenues turned into reduced payroll tax, corporate tax, revenue neutral. Have reduced emissions, improved economy. Regarded as a success.
- Boulder instituted tax on CAP residential, commercial, and industrial. Taxed based on the amount of electricity used. CAP tax generated 1.8 million in 2010, renewed by voters in 2012. Money used for similar programs to the DSM (Demand Side Management) programs by TEP.
- TEP's energy efficiency programs have been a success, TEP willing to give presentation to CCC.
- Challenge is emission profile not going down despite efforts. This echoes councilmembers concerns - What do we have to do to achieve carbon neutral?
- National legislation – Fee on carbon, returning revenues to households, can reduce emissions by 50% by 2015. Citizens Climate Lobby (Ron member) focusing on this legislation, working to get municipalities to sign on and support this legislation. This is something the CCC can do here, make recommendation to M/C. Resolution template from Santa Fe included in the distributed meeting materials.
- Political popularity – progressive budget in the House of Representatives, carbon tax included, one of the reasons it cannot gain support, Republicans or Democrats. Focus should be on the local level.
- Fuel tax is option, more palatable to community. (ex: Recent road bond was successful) Council members more likely to back
- Is the fuel tax regressive, impact on lower income consumers? Subsidies?
- Will only work if people change their behavior.
- Vehicle registration fee possibility? Only at state level? Money can be used for repair/improvements and a percentage to climate mitigation/sustainability. More stable funding source.
- Franchise agreements
- Fuel tax would be about \$.10 / gallon

8. Future Agenda Items

The committee requested that the next agenda include:

- Continued Carbon Fee discussion
- Presentation from Tucson Clean and Beautiful
- TEP Franchise agreement discussion

9. Call to Audience

PAG - Air quality forum on June 23, 2015

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:09 PM